

47th Annual  
*Virginia*  
*Saltwater Fishing Tournament*  
2004



**Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament**



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## ELIGIBLE SPECIES AND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR "CITATIONS"

	<u>Minimum Length</u>	<u>Minimum Weight</u>
Blue or White Marlin	Any	N/A
Sailfish	Any	N/A
Swordfish	Any	N/A
Spearfish	Any	N/A
Shark (any)	72 in.*	N/A
Amberjack	50 in.	N/A
Tarpon	48 in.*	N/A
Red Drum	46 in.	N/A
Crevaille Jack	40 in.	N/A
False Albacore	32 in.	N/A
Tuna, Bluefin	60 in.*	100 lbs.
Tuna, Yellowfin or Bigeye	50 in.	70 lbs.
Black Drum	46 in.	80 lbs.
Cobia	50 in.	55 lbs
Striped Bass (Rockfish)	44 in.	40 lbs.
Wahoo	50 in.*	35 lbs.
Dolphin	46 in.	25 lbs.
King Mackerel	44 in.*	20 lbs.
Bluefish	36 in.	16 lbs.
Gray Trout	30 in.	9 lbs.
Spadefish	22 in.	9 lbs.
Tautog	23 in.	9 lbs.
Flounder	26 in.	7 lbs.
Sheepshead	21 in.	7 lbs.
Speckled Trout	24 in.	5 lbs.
Black Sea Bass	22 in.	5 lbs.
Spanish Mackerel	26 in.	5 lbs
Gray Triggerfish	20 in.	4 lbs.
Croaker	20 in.	3 lbs.
Pompano	16 in.	1 lb., 8 oz.
Kingfish (Roundhead)	16 in.	1 lb., 8 oz.
Spot	13 in.	1 lb.

Release Citation available for all Species (based on length)

\*Estimated length (All other lengths must be actual measurements)

## TOURNAMENT RULES

### 1. Eligibility:

- (a) The following persons are eligible to participate: all persons holding valid Virginia Saltwater Fishing Licenses; all persons fishing on private boats, charter or head boats, commercial fishing piers or rental boats that possess valid "blanket" Virginia Fishing Licenses; all persons with valid out-of-state saltwater fishing licenses that are reciprocal with Virginia's license; except as provided in section (b) following:
- (b) The following persons are not eligible to participate: a captain or mate of a charterboat, headboat or partyboat and professional guides while under charter or hire; holders of commercial hook-and-line fishing licenses and all persons participating in a commercial hook-and-line fishing trip; any person convicted in a court of law of the violation of any marine fishery law or regulation, including failure to possess a fishing license, is ineligible for the year in which the conviction occurred and the following year.
- (c) All fish must be caught on a rod and reel in a fair and sportsmanlike manner without aid by the angler. All catches must comply with all applicable regulations and laws, including size limits, possession limits, open and closed seasons, closed waters and areas, and the waters must be open to public fishing.
- (d) To qualify for a "release" Citation, the angler or mate must control the fish and either touch the fish or the leader and the fish must be alive when it is unhooked and/or released. If a minimum length is required to

qualify, the fish must be measured, and the actual, measured length must be recorded on the Citation entry form, except for bluefin tuna, sharks, wahoo, king mackerel and tarpon in which the length must be determined to meet the minimum requirement and the estimated length recorded on the entry form. The tournament entry form is to be completed in the standard manner and a witness to the catch, measurement (if required), and release of the fish must complete the witness certification attesting to compliance with tournament rules.

- (e) Anglers fishing alone may earn a “release” Citation by providing a clear, sideview photograph of the fish on a measuring device clearly showing the length of the fish provided the entry form is completed and photograph is supplied to the weigh station within 7 days as required in rule 3(a).
- (f) Measurements for “release” citations shall be total length measured on a flat measuring device; fish must be laid on top of a measuring stick or tape that has been completely stretched out and is resting on a flat surface and measured from the tip of its nose or lower jaw to the tip of its tail.

## **2. Boundaries**

Catches are eligible from the saltwater areas within the Commonwealth of Virginia (Chesapeake Bay, tributary rivers, ocean surf). Catches also are eligible from the Potomac River, upper Chesapeake Bay, and the Atlantic Ocean, provided that the angler fished on a boat which leaves from and returns to a Virginia port without docking or landing outside of Virginia.

## **3. Weighing and Registering Fish**

- (a) All fish must be weighed and releases registered at an official weigh station as soon as practical, but no later than 7 days following the actual date of catch. Scales used must be inspected or certified and fractions of an ounce do not count.
- (b) Each entry must be recorded on an official entry form, signed by the angler, weigh master, and a witness.
- (c) Weighmasters are eligible, but a witness to the weighing is required.
- (d) Weigh stations must forward the original (white) copy of the entry form to the Tournament Director’s office within 10 days of the date registration. Original entry forms may not be given to any person, and original entry forms mailed to the Tournament office by any one other than the weigh station will not be accepted.
- (e) Mutilated, cut, scaled, harpooned, speared, shot or frozen fish are not eligible ; however, tuna, which have been cut and bled may be registered. Weighmasters may cut, open or mark any fish after it has been weighed.
- (f) Anglers will not be allowed to weigh fish at more than one weigh station, or “shop” their fish among weigh stations for heavier weights. Entries will be disqualified for anglers violating this rule.

## **4. Rules Violations**

- (a) Any angler, weigh station, boat or pier operator, or other person who violates Tournament Rules may be excluded from Tournament participation and forfeit all rights to all Tournament awards.
- (b) Rules violations may be considered any time, however protests filed by other anglers must be submitted in writing within 10 days of any alleged violation. The Tournament director may require additional information or affidavits for any entry.
- (c) Decisions of the appointed Tournament Committee will be final.

## **5. Awards**

- (a) No fish which falls below the posted minimum Tournament standards shall be eligible for a Tournament award.
- (b) Anglers may earn only one Citation award for each species per year. Anglers with multiple entries in a single species will receive an award for the largest entry in the species.

# VIRGINIA MARINE GAME FISH RECORDS

Species	Weight	Where	When	Angler
Albacore.....	68 lbs. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	1992 .....	Irvin Fenton, Jr.
Amberjack.....	118 lbs. ....	Ches. Light Tower .....	1986 .....	Mark J. Roberts
Barracuda.....	45 lbs. 8 oz. ....	CB Buoy Line .....	1996 .....	Wayne Seymour
Bluefish.....	25 lbs. 4 oz. ....	Bluefish Rock.....	1986 .....	Gayle E. Cozzens
Cobia.....	104 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Ches. Bay Br. Tunnel .....	2002 .....	Steve Hasynic
Cod, Atlantic.....	35 lbs. ....	Off Wachapreague .....	1969 .....	Robert Crammer
Crevalle Jack.....	48 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Ches. Light Tower .....	1993 .....	Charles McCaskill, III
Croaker.....	5 lbs. 13 oz. ....	The Cell (Ches. Bay).....	1982 .....	Jim Mitchem
Dolphin.....	71 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1991 .....	Don Dorey
Drum, Black.....	111 lbs. ....	Off Cape Charles.....	1973 .....	Betty D. Hall
Drum, Red.....	85 lbs. 4 oz. ....	Wreck Island .....	1981 .....	Herman Moore
False Albacore .....	25 lbs. 4 oz. ....	Off Virginia Capes.....	1964 .....	Jack Sparrow
Flounder.....	17 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Baltimore Channel .....	1971 .....	Charles E. Cross
Kingfish (Roundhead).....	2 lbs. 13 oz. ....	Off Sandbridge .....	2002 .....	Chip Watters
Mackerel, King .....	52 lbs. 2 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1999 .....	Andrew John Allesio
Mackerel, Spanish.....	9 lbs. 13 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1993 .....	Everett Cameron
Marlin, Blue.....	1,093 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	1978 .....	Edward Alan Givens
Marlin, White.....	131 lbs. 10 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1978 .....	Rudolph D.van't Riet
Pollock.....	23 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Off Chincoteague .....	1998 .....	Lee Michalski
Pompano .....	5 lbs. 10 oz. ....	Scarborough Island.....	1992 .....	Robert T. Long
Porgy.....	5 lbs. 5 oz. ....	Off Chincoteague .....	1978 .....	Charles B. Haines, Sr.
Sailfish.....	68 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1977 .....	P.J. Murden
Sea Bass.....	10 lbs. 4 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	2000 .....	Allan P. Paschall
Shark, Bigeye Thresher .....	149 lbs. ....	The Cigar.....	1992 .....	Wayne M. Gross
Shark, Blacktip .....	76 lbs. 10 oz. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1988 .....	John W. Thurston, Jr.
Shark, Blue.....	266 lbs. ....	The Cigar.....	1987 .....	Wayne C. DeFord
Shark, Bull.....	256 lbs. ....	V-Buoy .....	1982 .....	Craig R. Paige
Shark, Dusky.....	673 lbs. ....	S.E. Lumps .....	1982 .....	Michael J. Halperin
Shark, Hammerhead (Great).....	430 lbs. ....	S.E. Lumps .....	1984 .....	Ronald E. Ault
Shark, Hammerhead (Scalloped).....	245 lbs. ....	The Cigar.....	1977 .....	Don Lips
Shark, Hammerhead (Smooth) .....	272 lbs. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1988 .....	Carolyn L. Matthews
Shark, Lemon.....	312 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Off Sandbridge .....	1976.....	Bill Walker
Shark, Mako.....	728 lbs. ....	Ches. Light Tower .....	1983 .....	Geoffrey H. Newbill
Shark, Sandbar (Brown) .....	213 lbs. ....	Triangle Wrecks .....	1986 .....	Bill Moffett
Shark, Sand Tiger .....	339 lbs. ....	Off Cape Charles.....	1983 .....	Kelly D. Capps
Shark, Silky.....	110 lbs. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	1977 .....	Gary W. Seay
Shark, Spinner.....	129 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Off Chincoteague .....	1991 .....	John E. Patton, II
Shark, Thresher.....	274 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Off Wachapreague .....	2002 .....	Jim Bishop
Shark, Tiger.....	1,099 lbs. 12 oz. ....	S.E. Lumps .....	1981 .....	John W. Thurston, Jr.
Shark, White.....	131 lbs. ....	S.E. Lumps .....	1981 .....	Fred Williams
Sheepshead.....	19 lbs. ....	Ches. Bay Br. Tunnel .....	1979 .....	James M. Boyd
Spadefish.....	13 lbs. ....	The Cell (Ches. Bay).....	1988 .....	Otis Tribble
Spot.....	2 lbs. 6 oz. ....	Off Poquoson.....	1980 .....	Nathan Dryden
Striped Bass .....	61 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Buoy 42 (Ches. Bay).....	1996.....	James R. Muse
Swordfish.....	381 lbs. 8 oz. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	1978.....	James D. Alexander
Tarpon.....	130 lbs. ....	Off Oyster.....	1975 .....	Barry Truitt
Tautog.....	24 lbs. ....	Off Wachapreague .....	1987 .....	Gregory R. Bell
Trout, Gray.....	19 lbs. ....	Ches. Bay Br. Tunnel .....	1983 .....	Philip W. Halstead
Trout, Speckled.....	16 lbs. ....	Masons Beach .....	1977 .....	Bill Katko
Tuna, Bigeye.....	285 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	2003 .....	Melvin Bray
Tuna, Bluefin.....	398 lbs. 8 oz. ....	The Fingers.....	2003 .....	E. K. Morrison
Tuna, Skipjack .....	22 lbs. 11 oz. ....	The Cigar.....	1995.....	Kitty Falk
Tuna, Yellowfin .....	203 lbs. 12 oz. ....	Norfolk Canyon.....	1981 .....	Bruce C. Gottwald, Jr.
Wahoo.....	109 lbs. ....	Off Virginia Beach .....	1994 .....	Delmo Dawson

# STATE RECORD RULES

The Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament (VSWFT) maintains the official records for saltwater game fish in Virginia. Records are determined by weight in pounds and ounces, and ties will be recognized and accorded record status. Special "State Record" citation plaques are awarded for catches exceeding or tying existing state records, provided the catches comply with all state record standards, proper registration procedures are followed, and the fish is certified by the VSWFT director as a state record. It is the sole responsibility of the angler to ensure all state record rules and procedures are followed.

State record entries must conform to all the rules of the VSWFT. In addition, the following conditions must be met:

- 1) State record entries must be made on the special, two-page state record application forms and all information requested on the form must be supplied.
- 2) The actual fish must be viewed by the VSWFT director, or a member of the VSWFT committee, or it will not be eligible for state record recognition. The VSWFT office and director should be contacted as soon as possible, and the fish must be preserved (unfrozen) for viewing.
- 3) Two side-view photographs of the fish must be submitted with the application; photographs become the property of the VSWFT and may be used for publicity or publication.
- 4) The actual tackle (rod, reel, terminal tackle) used to catch the fish must be available for inspection by weighmaster and VSWFT director.
- 5) In addition to the boundary requirements listed in Rule 2 of this brochure, state record catches must be made in waters regularly and commonly fished by boats leaving from and returning to Virginia ports. Current boundary limits are waters north of the line connecting Cape Point, Hatteras, NC with Diamond Shoals Tower and south of latitude line 38° 15' south of Ocean City, MD.

Initial state records will be recognized in the following species at the listed minimum weights;

Blackfin Tuna . . . . .	20 lbs.
Atlantic Bonito . . . . .	8 lbs.
Gray Triggerfish . . . . .	6 lbs.
Atlantic (Boston) Mackerel . . . . .	3 lbs.

Learn about the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, including our rules, weigh stations, state record information, and a complete listing of last year's Citation winning fish, on the Virginia Marine Resource Commission's website. Visit us at [www.mrc.state.va.us](http://www.mrc.state.va.us); we are listed under the section entitled "Recreational Fishing Information".

## **2004 WEIGH STATIONS**

### **Eastern Shore**

Bayford-Bayford Marina  
Cape Charles-Bailey's Tackle Shop; Cape House Bait & Tackle;  
Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel  
Cheriton-Cherrystone Bait & Tackle  
Chincoteague-Barnacle Bill's Bait & Tackle;  
Capt. Bob's Marina; Assateague Channel Marina; Barnacle Bill's;  
Snug Harbor Marina; Capt. Steve's Bait & Tackle  
Greenbackville-Bay Witch Rentals  
New Church-Peace Token  
Painter-Hickman Lumber Company  
Parksley-The Lunch Box  
Saxis-J & L Bait & Tackle  
Tasley-Tunahunter Sportfishing  
Townsend-Chris' Bait & Tackle  
Wachapreague-Port of Wachapreague Town Marina;  
Wachapreague Seaside Marina; Capt. Zed's Bait & Tackle

### **Tidewater**

Chesapeake-Gail's Bait & Tackle; Chesapeake Bait & Tackle;  
Shorty's Fishing & Hunting  
Franklin-Dail's Home Center  
Norfolk-Sandy Point Tackle & Marine (Little Creek)-Bay  
Marina Inc.; C-Tackle; Cobb's Marina; Cutty Sark Marina;  
Little Creek Marina; Taylor's Landing Marina  
(Ocean View)-Willoughby Marina  
Portsmouth-Bait Shack, Culpepper's Boat Rental  
Suffolk-Butler's Self Service; Nansemond River Bait & Tackle;  
Dashiell's Half Round Showroom; Troy Marine  
Virginia Beach-Boater's World; Marina Shores; The Bait Barn; Princess  
Anne Distributing Co., Raugh Co. Bait & Tackle; Margie & Ray's;  
Oceans East Tackle Shop; Virginia Beach Fishing Pier;  
Oceans East II Tackle Shop  
(Lynnhaven Inlet)-Bubba's Marina; Lynnhaven Marine  
Center; Lynnhaven Seafood Marina;  
Long Bay Pointe Bait & Tackle; Lighthouse Tackle  
(Rudee Inlet)-Fisherman's Wharf Marina; Rudee Inlet  
Station Marina; Virginia Beach Fishing Center  
(Sandbridge)-Little Island Fishing Pier

### **Northern Neck**

Callao-R.W.'s Sport Shop  
Coles Point-Branson Cove Marina  
Kilmarnock-Chesapeake Boat Basin; RTS Tackle  
Lewisetta-Lewisetta Marina  
Oak Grove-Winter Harbor Seafood  
Reedville-Buzzard Point Marina; Smith Point Marina  
Wicomico Church-Ingram Bay Marina

### **The Peninsula (York-James)**

Ft. Monroe-Old Point Comfort Marina  
Hampton-King Street Bait & Tackle; Salt Pond's Marina;  
Sunset Marina-Buco's Bait & Tackle; Vanasse Bait & Tackle;  
Wallace's Marina; L.D. Amory & Company, Inc.; Southall  
Landing Marina  
Newport News-Wilcox Bait & Tackle, Inc.; Sports, Inc.;  
Buddy's Bait & Tackle  
Poquoson-Back River Market; Weekender Boating Center  
Smithfield-Hearns Bait Barn & General Store  
Williamsburg-Hooker Bait & Tackle  
Yorktown-Dare Marina; Grafton Fishing Supply;  
Bishop's Fishing Supply

## Middle Peninsula (Rappahannock-York)

Bavon-Davis Creek Marina  
Bowler's Wharf-Garrett's Marina, Inc.  
Chester-Castaway Sporting Goods  
Colonial Heights-Dance's Sporting Goods  
Deltaville-J & W Seafood of VA, Inc.; Norview Marina  
Dutton-Queens Creek Outfitters  
Glen Allen-Green Top Sporting Goods, Corp.  
Gloucester-Freeport Marina  
Gloucester Point-A & S Feed & Supplies, Inc.; Old Hookers  
Bait & Tackle  
Gwynn's Island-Gwynn's Island Campers Haven;  
Pulley's Marine, Inc.  
Hayes-Cooks Landing Marina  
Hudgins; Gwynn's Island Boatel  
Mechanicsville-Surfside Bait & Tackle  
New Point-New Point Campground  
Plainview-Tucker's Recreation Park & Marina  
Richmond-Scott's Bait & Tackle Shop, Inc.  
Saluda-Keepers  
Tappahannock-Martin-Sale Furniture Co., Inc.  
Topping-Grey's Point Campground; Locklies Marina  
Ware Neck-Nuttall & Company  
West Point-Diggs Seafood  
Windmill Point-Windmill Point Resort Marina

## Outstanding Angler Awards Program

**Virginia Expert Saltwater Angler** - any angler registering six different species of fish for Citations in a single year earns a certificate suitable for framing.

**Virginia Master Saltwater Angler** - any angler earning 25 Citations awards in a minimum of 5 different species (a maximum of 1 Citation per species per year allowed) over an unlimited period of time starting with the year 1996. Additional levels of recognition accrue to anglers with 50 Citations in at least 10 different species and 75 Citations in 15 different species. Qualifying anglers must notify the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament upon meeting the requirements and earn certificates suitable for framing.

**Virginia Junior Angler** - any angler 15 years of age and younger can earn a special Virginia Junior Angler Award certificate, hat and decal by catching and releasing 6 different species of saltwater fish in Virginia during the year. The program is free, there are no minimum size limits for the fish, and almost all species of saltwater fish qualify. Complete information and special Junior Angler registration cards are available from the office of the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

### SPECIES TROPHY

A trophy will be awarded to the angler catching the largest fish in each of the Tournament's 22 species eligible for weight Citations. In the event of a tie, the date of catch will be used to determine the winner with the earliest (first) caught fish declared the winner. Fish must meet all entry criteria of the tournament.



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